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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### FISHERY UPDATE



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*  
*Scott Kelley, Director*



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Contact:  
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Time: 2:15 p.m.

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#### SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE #5

Sitka.... An aerial survey was conducted today covering Sitka Sound from Cape Burunof to Krestof Sound. Weather during today's flight was good with south winds at 5-10 knots and clear skies. No herring spawn was observed. One school of herring was observed in Hayward Strait west of Guide Island. The highest concentration of herring predators was still north of Bieli Rock, where numerous whales were seen working in deeper waters and approximately 400 sea lions in several large groups were observed in open water near the whales. Three test fishing boats located a large biomass of herring north of Bieli Rock this morning, but the herring remained too deep to make a successful set.

The next Fishery Update can be expected on Saturday, March 17, after the next scheduled aerial survey. The department will place the fishery on two-hour notice and schedule a pre-fishery organizational meeting once test sampling indicates increasing roe maturity.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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